SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

UNHCR EXTERNAL REGIONAL UPDATE, 8

17 - 21 March 2014

Highlights

- SOUTH SUDAN: Escalating tensions between refugees and host communities in Maban County are attributed to dwindling resources affecting all populations during the hunger gap.
- SUDAN: Sudan continues to receive South Sudanese at the rate of approximately 300 per day, with a notable influx into El Liri, Talodi Locality in South Kordofan over the past week. The condition of those arriving is noted as particularly dire, with the population in desperate need of assistance as they are reported to be arriving with almost no belongings.



The Kakuma Reception Centre was flooded after hours of rainfall on 13 March 2014. Some arrivals were relocated to the nearby Somali Bantu school pending relocation to Kakuma 4.

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- ETHIOPIA: UNHCR invited representatives from ten donor Embassies in Addis Ababa to visit Gambella on 18 March as part of the launch of the Inter-Agency Appeal. The visitors observed operations in both Pagak and Kule Camp. The visit was also attended by the Country Directors of UNICEF, WFP and IOM as well as several NGOs.
- KENYA: The much-awaited rains started on 13 March. While this was a relief for the drought stricken Turkana West, it has also created operational hurdles. The reception centre was flooded during the weekend affecting some 200 tents. Many of the new arrivals at the centre had to be relocated to the nearby Somali Bantu School while others were given plots and temporary shelters in Kakuma 4.
- UGANDA: The average daily arrival in February was 170 persons, rising to 491 so far in March.

235,035 Refugees in South Sudan 249,276
South Sudanese refugees

708,900
(Including 75,000 in UN Protection of Civilians sites)

IDPs since 15 Dec. 2013

POPULATIONS OF CONCERN

SOUTH SUDAN

Refugees from							
1,634							
6,052							
14,064							
213,285							
235,035							
708,900							
	6,052 14,064 213,285 235,035						

SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES (AS OF 21 MARCH)

Ethiopia	74,118 ¹	
Kenya	27,879	
Sudan	58,242 ²	
Uganda	89,037	
Total	249,276	

For more information please visit: http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php

¹ This figure represents only the new arrivals since mid-December 2013.

² This figure does not include new arrivals in Abyei PCA Box.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

South Sudan

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Although the situation is relatively calm in Juba and its surroundings, the disclosure by the Government that arms and ammunition had been intercepted in UNMISS contracted vehicles in Rumbek has heightened the situation. According to the press statement from the Government Spokesperson and Minister of Information, the Council of Ministers has resolved that all UN and Relief Organizations vehicles will be routinely searched.

IDPs

Protection: The Protection Cluster discussed with UNMISS specific plans for addressing "criminality" in UNMISS Protection of Civilians (PoC) Areas. The Cluster stressed that this was an UNMISS activity, while humanitarians will continue their community

SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION UNHCR presence
 Refugee location IDPs South Sudanese refugees Area with violence O Yida NORTHERN BAHR Kuajok EL GHAZALO WESTERN BAHR OWARRAP 74,118 JONGLEI EL GHAZAL Rumbek LAKES AFRICAN REPUBLIC WESTERN FASTERN Juba EQUATORIA **EQUATORIA** DR OF THE CONGO CENTRAL 27,879 **EQUATORIA** 89.037 100 km

^aThis figure does not include new arrivals in Abyei PCA Box.

Map Sources: UNCS, UNHCR, OCHA.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined. Creation date: 24 Mar 2014.

leadership capacity building and conflict mitigation activities in PoC Areas.

Heavy rains over the past two weeks have led to increasing challenges in PoC Areas in Juba.

Shelter / NFIs: UNHCR and Plan International colleagues in Rumbek completed an NFI distribution to IDPs, underscoring UNHCR efforts to also reach IDP populations outside of both PoC and large IDP hosting areas. The distribution of NFIs in Pariang County continued from 13 to 15 March in Panyang, Panthur (Yida Payam) and Gumriak Payams. However, out of 20,000 targeted IDPs in Pariang County, a total of 17,064 registered, only 16,747 individuals received food and NFIs; 317 individuals did not turn up to receive food and NFIs.

OVERALL HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION

In the inter-agency relief effort, under the overall coordination of the Humanitarian Coordinator, UNHCR continues providing assistance to IDPs by leading the Protection Cluster, co-leading the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and providing support to the Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI) Cluster.

REFUGEES

A total of 304 Anuak³ refugees previous seeking physical protection in the UNMISS Protection of Civilians (PoC) Area in Malakal have been relocated to Juba and are being processed for voluntary repatriation back to Ethiopia. The Deputy Commissioner of the Commission for Refugees Affairs returned from a mission to Maban where he was seeking to address challenges in host community/refugee relations in the wake of recent unrest.

Due to a general mobilization of government aligned security forces to support operations in the vicinity, incidents of harassment against UNHCR/NGOs in Unity and Upper Nile border region have increased with multiple incidents reported.

NFIs

The fragile security situation in Yida held back the delivery of needed items such as NFIs, fuel, lubricants, spare parts and construction materials. In Yida, lack of IVECO spare parts in the country has affected Action Africa Help International (AAH-I)'s ability to speedily repair the IVECO trucks, negatively affecting operational capacity.

³ The Anuak are a tribal minority living as agriculturalists in the fertile Gambella region of southwest Ethiopia.

WASH AND NUTRITION

- The WASH service delivery is operational in both Yida and Ajoung Thok camps. The water production and delivery has been found satisfactory, basic indicator of SPHERE standard (15 l/p/day) has been met and above the UNHCR standard (20 l/p/day).
- Latrine construction and hygiene promotion activities have been ongoing in Yida.
- In Yida, seven suspected measles cases were identified in week 10 (compared to 40 cases in week 9; 56 cases in week 8; 68 cases in week 7; 26 cases in week 6 and 11 cases in week 5). This signifies a significant downward trend, indicating that the recently concluded mass measles campaign which was conducted in weeks 6 and 7 is beginning to have positive results. In Yida and Ajoung Thok, referrals continue to remain a major challenge since there is currently no functional referral unit in Unity State, as well as security limitations.
- Nutrition trends in both Yida and Ajoung Thok have been reported as fairly stable.

Ethiopia

UNHCR interviewed the new arrivals, many of whom claimed to come from areas far away from the border, (e.g. Malakal, Upper Nile State). Some refugees reported that they did not immediately come to Ethiopia but tried first to find safe locations in South Sudan, but then they were eventually compelled to flee across the border. Many reported travelling through Nasir and entering Ethiopia via the Gambella Region.

NUTRITION

- In Pagak, WFP undertook general food distribution as a measure to address the food situation of the refugees waiting to be relocated. Food distribution started on 10 March with sugar, salt, oil and sorghum being distributed by the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) with support from WFP. Jerrycans are also being provided by UNHCR and distributed by ARRA to assist with water collection. Other non-food items are also being distributed in the camps.
- All children identified as malnourished during the recent Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening have now been relocated together with their families to either Kule or Leitchuor camps, where they are immediately enrolled in treatment programmes and have access to services and assistance provided in the camps. Nutritional screening is being undertaken as an ongoing activity by Action contre la Faim (ACF) and Médecins Sans Frontières France (MSF-F).

SHELTER

Relocation of new arrivals by IOM from Pagak and Akobo to Kule (formerly Tierkidi) and Leitchuor is ongoing. UNHCR is exploring the possibility of bringing in an helicopter to assist with movements to and from Akobo, which would carry both passengers and humanitarian assistance, including medicine and food. With a population of over 29,400 people, Leitchuor has already surpassed its planned capacity of 20,000. Considering the topography of Leitchuor and the increasing numbers of refugees, UNHCR is discussing with ARRA and partners plans for an additional site. ARRA has identified a site near the current Leitchuor Camp. Pugnido Camp is also to be expanded.

Kenya

The Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) called a meeting between the central and sub-county government officials on 17 March to discuss land for the new camp. This meeting was called following pressure from the newly constituted sub-county administration officials, who asked to be part of the process. It was agreed that a committee representing both leadership structures would meet with the Governor and County Lands Minister in Lodwar on 19th March 2014 to brief them on proceedings towards securing the new land.

PROTECTION

• As of 18 March 2014, there were 292 unaccompanied children (UAM) accommodated at the reception centre. Plans are underway to move close to 200 UAMs to the community between this week and the

coming one. The majority of the children will be under child-headed households as they are adolescents and finding foster care for this group of children has been a challenge as most foster parents prefer younger children. However, the child-headed households will be linked to specific families that have been identified by UNHCR and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) to assist in monitoring the children. Family-sized tents will be provided for them pending the construction of more durable shelters by the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK).

- Continuous identification and assessment of potential foster parents continued and so far 125 potential
 foster parents have been identified in Kakuma 4. Additional assessments will be carried out before any
 children can be released into foster care. Meanwhile, community awareness and sensitization on children's
 rights continued.
- A child protection technical team is on the ground, conducting trainings on Child Protection Information Management System (CP IMS) for all concerned partners. The team is looking at ways of supporting child protection officers to effectively implement the system for better case management and identify better ways of information sharing and data entry between the system and UNHCR database (proGres). Additionally, any challenges with the system will be identified and addressed. The team will come up with recommendations at the end of the training session which will be shared with all concerned agencies for review.

WASH

- Water tankering in Kakuma 4 continued as an interim measure, pending the laying of pipes to the site from the just completed borehole. World Vision International (WVI) is drilling the second borehole in the camp which will also be connected to Kakuma 4.
- So far, a total of 909 communal latrines have been constructed at the new site. Two hundred family/household latrines have also been constructed. Cleaning kits are being issued to families (one kit to every four households) and they are sensitized on how to clean the latrines and maintain hygiene. Families with children under three years are also issued with potties (one potty per family).

SHELTER

- Work on the transit centre in Nadapal has continued and phase one of the construction is set to be completed by the end of next week. This involves the fencing of the site, construction of two multipurpose shades, security screening shade, a kitchen and installation of generator. A dumpsite has also been completed. Phase two of construction is scheduled to start next week when contractors move to the site. This will involve construction of a medical screening facility and offices for UNHCR and the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA).
- Residents of Kakuma 4 have taken advantage of the rains and harvested some water which they are using to continue making mud bricks for shelter construction.
- Construction of access roads in the site started on 16 March and grading and compacting is ongoing. Work
 on the drainage system is also being intensified.

CRIs

 Blankets are in short supply and 5,000 pieces have been dispatched from Dadaab while 2,000 are being sourced locally. Fifteen thousand blankets are in the pipeline awaiting completion of tax exemption formalities.

EDUCATION

At the time of writing, there are three reinforced tents pitched at the site for the emergency school – a total of seven tents are to be put up so that classes can start pending the completion of the 20 semi-permanent classrooms by NCCK and UNICEF.

Sudan

Reports from South Sudan suggest that a possible famine may occur in the second half of the year due to the near total disruption of the planting and harvest season, which would also increase the likelihood of ongoing and potentially escalated arrivals to Sudan in the coming months.

PROTECTION

- The Department of Passport and Immigration continued to register new arrivals in both relocation sites in White Nile State. While registration fees are reportedly being waived in some instances, the cost of medical tests (including HIV /AIDS and Hepatitis) often surpasses what newly arrived South Sudanese might afford to pay.
- There are concerns that the upcoming rainy season may render Kilo 10 relocation site inaccessible. This is a pressing issue currently being looked at by UNHCR, who has offered the Government technical and logistic support to assist the identification and relocation of the site.
- NFIs' distributions by UNHCR are planned for 410 families identified in the Open Areas (Shegla and Soba Kongor) next week. Community leaders have confirmed that population numbers are increasing and that additional interventions will be required accordingly.

WASH

- Water trucking is 181,000 liters per day in Kilo 10 relocation site provided by three trucks which make the total amount of water supply 9 liters per person per day. The water supply in Al Alagaya is 30,000 liters per day which equates to a water supply of 14 liters per persons per day supported by UNICEF. Efforts are underway to identify additional trucking capacity to bring the levels of potable water provision up to minimum standards.
- In addition to the 98 latrines in Kilo 10 and Al Alagaya, the construction of six latrines for two child friendly spaces in Kilo 10 has started and there is ongoing hygiene promotion with the help of 58 volunteers in Kilo 10.
- Water chlorination is conducted at the intake points and checked at the final destination by the Ministry of Health's staff and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) - and so far levels are acceptable.

FOOD AND NUTRITION

- A total of 26,695 South Sudanese has now received food aid. This breaks down as a total of 20,304 in Kilo 10, 2,347 in Al Alagaya and 4,044 in South Kordofan. Two rapid needs assessments have also taken place in the last week in both Kilo 10 and Al Alagaya, with people facing food preparation challenges due to inadequate access to fire wood and cooking utensils, with very few households having any stock of food to relay on other than emergency rations.
- The Nutrition Sector began to operationalise its emergency response plan for the next three months in response to the high Global Acute Malnutrition levels in Kilo 10 relocation site (over 20%). The plan includes interventions from the Ministry of Health (MoH), UNICEF, WFP, MSF-ES, Plan Sudan and the national partner Eithar. It will cover Infant and Young Child Feeding Interventions (IYCFI), micronutrients supplements, prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition and ongoing reporting mechanisms to monitor activities and nutrition levels.

HEALTH

- Coordination meetings are taking place every Thursday at state level in Kosti. At camp level, three meetings per week are also planned in both relocation sites.
- WHO will provide support to MSF activities through delivery of four basic health kits as well as laboratory kits. Primary health care in Al Alagaya is being delivered through the Ministry of Health, with WHO supporting drug supplies. WHO, MoH and MSF are conducting ongoing monitoring, and all morbidity reports remain below epidemic thresholds. Water-borne diseases are reported at the same incidence rate as the local community. WHO receives daily disease reports from the Ministry of Health in White Nile State, who are also updated daily by MSF. The population mortality rate is nil so far.
- In South and West Kordofan, WHO is supporting the MoH in El Liri and Abu Jibeiha. Three basic health kits have been provided, to cover a population of up to 3,000 for three months per kit. WHO has also contracted SRCS in West Kordofan for provision of a primary health care package. WHO monitoring is occurring through technical officers at the sub-office in South Kordofan and a Federal Ministry of Health official in White Nile State.

COORDINATION

 Coordination meetings continue to happen on a regular basis, both at Khartoum level, and at the state level for specific areas such as health. These meetings ensure that gaps are highlighted and intervention responses planned without overlap.

Uganda

Earlier successes by UNHCR, the Government and partners to decongest the three overcrowded transit centres (Adjumani, Arua, and Kiryandongo) notwithstanding, a sudden increase in new arrivals (especially in Adjumani) has given rise to new congestion. There are now 8,219 refugees at Nyumanzi reception centre in Adjumani awaiting relocation to settlements. The identification of new settlements is underway and refugees will be transferred accordingly and as necessary basic services are put in place. Kiryandongo reception centre is also facing renewed congestion and the priority is once again to decongest the facility.

EDUCATION

 An assessment of the education sector in the refugee settlements was completed with support of the authorities and partners. Action is being taken to create capacity in existing schools for newly arrived refugee children.

COORDINATION SHELTER, WASH AND NUTRITION

- Shelter kit coverage in Adjumani, Arua and Kiryandongo reached 85% while water provision averages 15 litres per person per day.
- Efforts undertaken by UNHCR and partners are ongoing to phase out water trucking to settlements and replace it with permanent sources such as boreholes/hand pumps.
- The coverage of communal latrines is moving satisfactorily and latrine coverage at household level is being enhanced.

FUNDING UPDATE (IN USD)

Below are revised UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance to South Sudanese refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in South Sudan. Total revised requirements amount to USD 390 million for 2014.

	Situation	South Sudan	Ethiopia	Kenya	Sudan	Uganda	Total		
Financial requirements total:		207,665,971	43,651,165	29,795,690	10,267,962	98,737,638	390,118,424		
Funding received/confirmed:									
Canada	895,255						895,255		
CERF		754,320		1,782,533		2,033,625	4,570,498		
Denmark	1,000,000						1,000,000		
Japan				2,116,973		130,512	2,247,485		
Switzerland		275,634					275,634		
Total	1,895,255	1,029,954		3,899,526		2,164,137	8,988,872		
Funding gap:		206,636,017	43,651,165	25,896,164	10,267,962	96,573,501	381,129,552		